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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/964,891

Applicant(s)

HENDRICKS, JOHN S.

Examiner

JAMES SHELEHEDA

Art Unit

2424

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 April 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 19-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 19-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/IC)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldstein (5,410,326) (of record) in view of Dekker et al. (Dekker) (4,513,315) (submitted by applicant) and Graczyk et al. (Graczyk) (5,192,999) (of record).

As to claim 1, while Goldstein discloses a set top terminal (column 33, lines 3-34), comprising:

an interface configured to receive a television signal comprising a composite data stream (column 16, lines 38-45);

program reception circuitry configured to extract and present audiovisual television programs and program control information received in the composite data signal (Fig. 14; column 16, line 38-column 19, line 12);

a processor (FIG. 14);

a memory storing computer readable instructions, that when executed by the processor, cause the set top terminal to generate an electronic program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen (column 17, lines 1-19), the guide comprising:

a home menu (master menu; column 34, lines 1-9);

a plurality of major menus displayed as menu options on the home menu (column 34, lines 6-19);

a plurality of sub-menus displayed as menu options on the plurality of major menus (column 34, line 67-column 35, line 59); and

a plurality of during programming menus enacted after selection of a program (additional information icons displayed during a program; column 14, lines 3-20);

wherein at least one of the plurality of menus comprises the program control information (column 14, lines 3-20); and

means for receiving the selection signals from a user input (column 17, lines 43-50), he fails to specifically disclose a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio programs received in the composite data stream, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus comprises a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio programs.

In an analogous art, Graczyk discloses a system capable of receiving television signals and audio signals (column 2, lines 10-38) including audio circuits which are

solely used for receiving audio signals (see Fig. 4) by providing audio circuitry through an audio expansion (upgrade) port (Fig. 1 and 4; column 10, line 33-column 11, line 44 and column 32, lines 62-66), wherein the audio is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs (AM/FM radio for receiving unrelated broadcast radio signals; Fig. 4; column 10, lines 33-65), the audio is accessed simultaneously while the program extract from the television is being displayed (column 11, line 65-column 12, line 9 and column 13, lines 35-47), providing a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio (column 11, lines 20-43) for the typical benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system (column 1, line 37-column 2, line 8).

Additionally, in an analogous art, Dekker discloses a system for providing separate television and audio signals (see abstract) which provides a composite data stream to the receivers (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) comprising independent and uncorrelated audiovisual television programming and audio programming (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) which is separately accessible (using separate tuning/demodulating/display equipment; Fig. 1; column 4, lines 33-column 5, line 6) for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers (see abstract and column 1, lines 8-60).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Goldstein's system to include a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio

programs, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus comprises a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio programs, as taught in combination with Graczyk, for the typical benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system.

Additionally, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Goldstein and Graczyk's system to include a composite data stream providing audiovisual television programming and independent and uncorrelated audio programs, as taught in combination with Dekker, for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers.

As to claim 2, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the plurality of menus of the guide further comprises:

an introductory menu that is displayed upon beginning use of the guide (local menu to perform initialization; see Goldstein at column 33, lines 11-34).

As to claim 3, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the guide is controlled by a set top terminal (television receiver; see Goldstein at column 33, lines 11-33), and wherein the introductory menu automatically appears on the television

screen when the set top terminal is turned on (see Goldstein at column 3, lines 11-16);
and

wherein the computer readable instructions, when executed by the processor,
further cause the set top terminal to:

generate a cursor highlight overlay to indicate the position of a cursor on at least
one menu (see Goldstein at column 9, lines 24-43, column 34, lines 10-28);

move the cursor highlight overlay in response to a user selection (see Goldstein
at column 9, lines 24-43, column 34, lines 10-28).

As to claim 4, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the introductory
menu displays information or messages from a television delivery system operations
center that provides programming (see Goldstein at column 33, lines 11-68).

As to claim 5, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the information or
messages are directed to a particular subscriber (see Goldstein at column 20, lines 54-
63).

As to claim 6, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the information or
messages are directed to a group of subscribers (see Goldstein at column 20, lines 54-
63).

As to claim 7, Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the during program menus comprise hidden menus and program overlay menus (comprising overlaid icons and hidden embedded information; see Goldstein at column 14, lines 3-20).

4. Claims 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker et al. (Banker) (5,477,262) (of record) in view of Graczyk and Dekker.

As to claims 22 and 23, while Banker discloses a set top terminal (Fig. 3, 300; column 10, lines 61-63) and corresponding method, comprising:

an interface configured to receive a television signal comprising a composite data stream (column 10, line 61-column 11, line 22);

program reception circuitry configured to extract and present audiovisual television programs and program control information received in the composite data stream (column 13, lines 2-59);

a processor (Fig. 3); and

memory storing computer readable instructions, that when executed by the processor (column 11, lines 32-59), cause the set top terminal to generate an electronic program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen (column 11, lines 21-31), the guide comprising:

a plurality of interactive menus (interactive menus for such features as sleep mode, messages, pay-per-view, VCR timing and STB control; Figs. 8, 10, 12, 16A, 18 and 20; column 21, line 44-column 25, line 27), each corresponding to a level of

interactivity and having one or more interactive menu items for selection (Figs. 8, 10, 12, 16A, 18 and 20; column 21, line 44-column 25, line 27);

a main menu having one or more main menu items for selection (top menu; Fig. 7A), which main menu items correspond to the interactive menus (corresponding to the submenus; Fig. 7 and 7A; column 21, lines 34-45), wherein the menus are navigated (column 21, lines 34-43), with selection signals received from a user input (column 21, lines 34-43);

wherein at least one of the plurality of menus comprises the program control information (menu with video background; column 12, line 48-column 13, line 13), he fails to specifically disclose a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio programs received in the composite data stream, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus comprises a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio programs.

In an analogous art, Graczyk discloses a system capable of receiving television signals and audio signals (column 2, lines 10-38) including audio circuits which are solely used for receiving audio signals (see Fig. 4) by providing audio circuitry through an audio expansion (upgrade) port (Fig. 1 and 4; column 10, line 33-column 11, line 44 and column 32, lines 62-66), wherein the audio is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs (AM/FM radio for receiving unrelated broadcast radio signals; Fig. 4; column 10, lines 33-65), the audio is accessed

simultaneously while the program extract from the television is being displayed (column 11, line 65-column 12, line 9 and column 13, lines 35-47), providing a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio (column 11, lines 20-43) for the typical benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system (column 1, line 37-column 2, line 8).

Additionally, in an analogous art, Dekker discloses a system for providing separate television and audio signals (see abstract) which provides a composite data stream to the receivers (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) comprising independent and uncorrelated audiovisual television programming and audio programming (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) which is separately accessible (using separate tuning/demodulating/display equipment; Fig. 1; column 4, lines 33-column 5, line 6) for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers (see abstract and column 1, lines 8-60).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker's system to include a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio programs, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus comprises a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio programs, as taught in combination with Graczyk, for the typical

benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system.

Additionally, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker and Graczyk's system to include a composite data stream providing audiovisual television programming and independent and uncorrelated audio programs, as taught in combination with Dekker, for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers.

5. Claims 8-16 and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker in view of Gibson (5,539,871) (of record), Graczyk and Dekker.

As to claim 8, while Banker discloses a set top terminal (Fig. 3, 300; column 10, lines 61-63), comprising:

an interface configured to receive a television signal comprising a composite data stream (column 10, line 61-column 11, line 22);

program reception circuitry configured to extract and present audiovisual television programs and program control information received in the composite data stream (column 13, lines 2-59);

a processor (Fig. 3); and

memory storing computer readable instructions, that when executed by the processor (column 11, lines 32-59), cause the set top terminal to generate an electronic

program guide for controlling display of content on a television screen (column 11, lines 21-31), the guide comprising:

a plurality of interactive menus (interactive menus for such features as sleep mode, messages, pay-per-view, VCR timing and STB control; Figs. 8, 10, 12, 16A, 18 and 20; column 21, line 44-column 25, line 27), each corresponding to a level of interactivity and having one or more interactive menu items for selection (Figs. 8, 10, 12, 16A, 18 and 20; column 21, line 44-column 25, line 27);

a main menu having one or more main menu items for selection (top menu; Fig. 7A), which main menu items correspond to the interactive menus (corresponding to the submenus; Fig. 7 and 7A; column 21, lines 34-45), wherein the menus are navigated (column 21, lines 34-43), with selection signals received from a user input (column 21, lines 34-43);

wherein at least one of the plurality of menus comprises the program control information (menu with video background; column 12, line 48-column 13, line 13) and

an overlay menu that is displayed during with a presented audiovisual television program in response to a user selection received by the set top terminal (Figs. 7 and 7A; column 12, line 62-column 13, line 13 and column 21, lines 34-43), the overlay menu including interactive features (Fig. 7A), he fails to specifically disclose a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio programs received in the composite data stream, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus

comprises a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio programs and a logo that is displayed with a presented audiovisual television program in response to the presented audiovisual program having an interactive feature, wherein the logo indicates to a user that the interactive features are available for the program.

In an analogous art, Graczyk discloses a system capable of receiving television signals and audio signals (column 2, lines 10-38) including audio circuits which are solely used for receiving audio signals (see Fig. 4) by providing audio circuitry through an audio expansion (upgrade) port (Fig. 1 and 4; column 10, line 33-column 11, line 44 and column 32, lines 62-66), wherein the audio is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs (AM/FM radio for receiving unrelated broadcast radio signals; Fig. 4; column 10, lines 33-65), the audio is accessed simultaneously while the program extract from the television is being displayed (column 11, line 65-column 12, line 9 and column 13, lines 35-47), providing a plurality of audio choices for accessing the audio (column 11, lines 20-43) for the typical benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system (column 1, line 37-column 2, line 8).

Additionally, in an analogous art, Dekker discloses a system for providing separate television and audio signals (see abstract) which provides a composite data stream to the receivers (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) comprising independent and uncorrelated audiovisual television programming and audio programming (column 1, lines 8-23 and column 4, lines 33-column 6, line 15) which is separately accessible (using separate tuning/demodulating/display equipment; Fig. 1;

column 4, lines 33-column 5, line 6) for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers (see abstract and column 1, lines 8-60).

Finally, in an analogous art, Gibson discloses a system wherein an interactive menu system for display on a television in conjunction with television programming (column 2, lines 10-27), wherein

a logo that is displayed on a display during a program having one or more interactive features (column 3, line 65-column 4, line 35 and column 6, lines 1-24);

a overlay menu that is displayed during the program (displayed list of choices; column 6, lines 51-56), the overlay menu including the interactive features (column 6, lines 53-62),

wherein the logo indicates to a user that the interactive features are available for the program (column 4, lines 7-35 and column 6, lines 1-24), and wherein the overlay menu is displayed in response to a signal received from a user input (column 6, line 38-56) for the typical benefit of allowing a user to elect to access additional information associated with a multimedia presentation (column 1, lines 39-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker's system to include a hardware upgrade port configured to receive upgrade circuitry that provides simultaneous access to audio programs, wherein a presentation of the audio programs by the upgrade circuitry is independent from and uncorrelated to the presentation of the audiovisual television programs, wherein at least one of the menus comprises a plurality of audio choices for

accessing the audio programs, as taught in combination with Graczyk, for the typical benefit of providing a user friendly means to combine multiple media abilities into a single standardized system.

Additionally, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker and Graczyk's system to include a composite data stream providing audiovisual television programming and independent and uncorrelated audio programs, as taught in combination with Dekker, for the typical benefit of enabling a headend television provider to use already available bandwidth to provide additional audio content to subscribers.

Finally, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk and Dekker's system to include a logo that is displayed on the television screen during one of the programs, which program has one or more interactive features, wherein the logo indicates to a user that the interactive features are available for the program, as taught in combination with Gibson, for the typical benefit of providing a user with a means to easily identify and access additional information related to a displayed video presentation.

As to claim 9, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the overlay menu includes menu options for a plurality of interactive features (see Banker at Figs. 7 and 7A and Gibson at column 5, lines 38-54 and column 6, lines 52-56).

As to claim 10, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the overlay menu further includes a menu option to return to the presented audiovisual program without the interactive features (see Banker at Fig. 7A and Gibson at column 6, lines 57-60 and Fig. 6, steps 610, 612 and 616).

As to claim 11, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose a cursor that indicates one of the menu options (see Banker at column 21, lines 34-43 and Gibson at column 6, lines 51-56, column 4, lines 27-35 and column 3, lines 36-39), wherein the cursor is controlled by a user selection received by the set top terminal (see Banker at column 21, lines 34-43 and Gibson at column 4, lines 27-35 and column 3, lines 36-39).

As to claim 12, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the interactive features include facts related to the presented audiovisual program (see Gibson at column 4, line 65-column 5, line 5).

As to claim 13, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the guide further comprises a plurality of interactive submenus for use with the interactive features (see Banker at Figs. 7 and 7A and column 21, lines 34-43), which submenus are displayed in response to a selection of the menu options received by the set top terminal (see Banker at column 21, lines 34-43).

As to claim 14, while Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson discloses displaying a plurality of submenus (see Banker at Fig. 7A), they fail to specifically disclose wherein the submenus are displayed in a video window in a scaled down program video format.

The examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention by applicant to simultaneously display a reduced version of a menu with a plurality of selections on the same display as video programming, wherein the menu and video programming are each scaled to cover a smaller portion of the overall display to allow both to be fully displayed to the user at the same time, for the typical benefit of allowing a viewer to continue fully viewing a television program while navigating a menu and not miss any of the displayed video program.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson's system to include wherein the submenus are displayed in a video window in a scaled down program video format for the typical benefit of allowing a viewer to continue viewing a television program while navigating a menu and not miss any of the displayed video program.

As to claim 15, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson wherein the presented audiovisual television program and one or more of the submenus are displayed on the television at the same time (see Banker at column 12, line 63-column 13, line 13).

As to claim 16, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson wherein the logo is displayed as an overlay menu (overlayed button to select; see Gibson at column 4, lines 7-36).

As to claim 19, while Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose generating the overlay menu utilizing a set top converter (see Banker at column 12, lines 42-61), they fail to specifically disclose using data received during a vertical blanking interval.

The examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention by applicant to utilize data from a vertical blanking interval, as receiving data during a vertical blanking interval at a set top terminal allows a cable headend or other programming provider to download additional data and information to a user's system, such as interactive information or data updates, for the typical benefit allowing additional and updated information to be received at a user's terminal from a broadcast provider utilizing a television signal.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson's system to include using data received during a vertical blanking interval for the typical benefit allowing additional and updated information to be received at a user's terminal from a broadcast provider utilizing a television signal.

As to claim 20, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the logo is displayed in a corner of the screen of the television periodically for a specified duration (see Gibson at Fig. 3B, Fig. 4, step 408; column 5, lines 6-20).

As to claim 21, while Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the logo is displayed for a particular period of time (pertaining to periods of time an object is on the display; see Gibson at column 6, lines 10-18 and column 4, lines 7-26 and lines 45-54), they fail to specifically disclose displaying the logo for 15 seconds during a plurality of ten-minute segments of the presented audiovisual television program.

The examiner takes Official Notice that it was notoriously well known in the art at the time of invention by applicant to display specific objects in a media presentation for at least 15 seconds during a plurality of ten-minutes segments of the program, such as the main character or object in a television program or movie, for the typical benefit of displaying important information to viewer's during extended periods of time during a program.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson's system to include displaying the logo for 15 seconds during a plurality of ten-minute segments of the program for the typical benefit of displaying important information to viewer's during extended periods of time during a program.

6. Claims 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker, Graczyk and Dekker, as applied to claim 23 above, and further in view of Gibson.

As to claim 24, while Banker, Graczyk and Dekker disclose displaying the audiovisual television program on the screen, they fail to specifically disclose displaying during the program a logo indicating that interactive features are associated with the program.

In an analogous art, Gibson discloses a system wherein an interactive menu system for display on a television in conjunction with television programming (column 2, lines 10-27), wherein

a logo that is displayed on a display during a program having one or more interactive features (column 3, line 65-column 4, line 35 and column 6, lines 1-24);

a overlay menu that is displayed during the program (displayed list of choices; column 6, lines 51-56), the overlay menu including the interactive features (column 6, lines 53-62),

wherein the logo indicates to a user that the interactive features are available for the program (column 4, lines 7-35 and column 6, lines 1-24), and wherein the overlay menu is displayed in response to a signal received from a user input (column 6, line 38-56) for the typical benefit of allowing a user to elect to access additional information associated with a multimedia presentation (column 1, lines 39-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk and Dekker's system to include

displaying during the program a logo indicating that interactive features are associated with the program, as taught by Gibson, for the typical benefit of providing a user with a means to easily identify and access additional information related to a displayed video presentation.

As to claim 25, Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose receiving from the user input device a signal associated with the logo (see Gibson at column 4, lines 7-36 and column 6, lines 5-10); and

displaying, in response to the signal, an overlay menu of the interactive features (see Gibson at column 6, lines 51-57).

7. Claims 28 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker, Graczyk and Dekker and further in view of Baji (5,027,400).

As to claims 28 and 29, while Banker, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the program control information comprises graphics and text (signals to generate the menus), they fail to specifically disclose wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text.

In an analogous art, Baji discloses a set top terminal which will receive signals to generate menus (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65) including graphics, text *and* video (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65, see Figs. 29A-31B, 36A-37) for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability (column 20,

lines 19-24) which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system (column 23, lines 7-41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk and Dekker's system to include wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text, as taught by Baji, for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system.

8. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker and further in view of Baji.

As to claim 26, while Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker disclose wherein the program control information comprises graphics and text (signals to generate the menus), they fail to specifically disclose wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text.

In an analogous art, Baji discloses a set top terminal which will receive signals to generate menus (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65) including graphics, text *and* video (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65, see Figs. 29A-31B, 36A-37) for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability (column 20, lines 19-24) which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system (column 23, lines 7-41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Goldstein, Graczyk and Dekker's system to include wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text, as taught by Baji, for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system.

9. Claim 27 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson and further in view of Baji.

As to claim 27, while Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson disclose wherein the program control information comprises graphics and text (signals to generate the menus), they fail to specifically disclose wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text.

In an analogous art, Baji discloses a set top terminal which will receive signals to generate menus (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65) including graphics, text *and* video (column 20, line 3-column 23, line 65, see Figs. 29A-31B, 36A-37) for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability (column 20, lines 19-24) which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system (column 23, lines 7-41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention by applicant to modify Banker, Graczyk, Dekker and Gibson's system to include wherein the program control information comprises video, graphics and text, as

taught by Baji, for the typical benefit of providing a visual operating environment having a high operability which would include information to allow the system to be used by those who are unfamiliar with the system.

Conclusion

10. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

11. The following are suggested formats for either a Certificate of Mailing or Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). The certification may be included with all correspondence concerning this application or proceeding to establish a date of mailing or transmission under 37 CFR 1.8(a). Proper use of this procedure will result in such communication being considered as timely if the established date is within the required period for reply. The Certificate should be signed by the individual actually depositing or transmitting the correspondence or by an individual who, upon information and belief, expects the correspondence to be mailed or transmitted in the normal course of business by another no later than the date indicated.

Certificate of Mailing

Art Unit: 2424

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

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Please refer to 37 CFR 1.6(d) and 1.8(a)(2) for filing limitations concerning facsimile transmissions and mailing, respectively.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES SHELEHEDA whose telephone number is (571)272-7357. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/James Sheleheda/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2424

JS